

Dec. 17, 2000 — Study #450

◆◆◆◆ LOS ANGELES TIMES® POLL ALERT ◆◆◆◆

HOW THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED

The Times Poll contacted 865 adults nationwide by telephone Dec. 14–16, 2000. Telephone numbers were chosen from a list of all exchanges in the nation. Random-digit dialing techniques were used so that listed and non-listed numbers could be contacted. The entire sample was weighted slightly to conform with census figures for sex, race, age, education and region. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus three percentage points. For certain subgroups the error margin may be somewhat higher. Poll results can also be affected by other factors such as question wording and the order in which questions are presented.

NOTES

All answer frequencies are given in percentages.
 “–” indicates less than 0.5%.
 Total may exceed 100% in questions where more than one response was accepted.
 The wording of some questions has been abridged.

SELECTED RESULTS FROM THE TIMES POLL NATIONAL SURVEY December 14–16, 2000

(A full summary of results will be available at a later date through the Los Angeles Times Poll)

GUIDE TO COLUMN HEADINGS

ALL	All U.S. adults
RV	Registered voters
DEM	Self-described Democrats
IND	Self-described independents
REP	Self-described Republicans
LIB	Political liberals
MOD	Political moderates
CON	Political conservatives
MEN	Men
WOM	Women

Q1: Do you think things in this country are generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Right direction	49	49	40	46	66	43	54	53	53	46
Wrong track	41	41	49	45	30	49	30	41	41	41
Don't know	10	10	11	9	4	8	16	6	6	13

Q2: On another subject, do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling his job as president?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Approve	65	64	88	62	37	80	74	47	66	64
Disapprove	30	32	8	35	59	16	20	50	30	30
Don't know	5	4	4	3	4	4	6	3	4	6

Q3: Generally speaking, do you think the nation's economy these days is doing well or badly?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Well	82	82	82	77	86	86	83	77	86	78
Badly	17	17	17	23	14	13	17	22	14	21
Don't know	1	1	1	–	–	1	–	1	–	1

Q4: In your opinion, how likely is it that the nation could face an economic recession sometime in the next year?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Likely	64	66	68	70	58	63	61	66	59	68
Not likely	32	30	27	26	39	31	34	31	38	26
Don't know	4	4	5	4	3	6	5	3	3	6

(ASKED OF REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY)

Q6: Were you able to vote in the presidential election held on November 7th, or did something prevent you from voting, or did you choose not to vote? (IF VOTED) Did you vote for the Democratic candidate Al Gore, or the Republican candidate George W. Bush, or Green Party candidate Ralph Nader, or Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan, or did you vote for someone else? (AMONG THOSE WHO VOTED)

	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Voted for Gore	45	90	38	3	70	57	21	41	49
Voted for Bush	51	8	56	94	22	39	77	55	47
Voted for Nader	3	1	6	–	8	2	–	3	2
Voted for Buchanan	1	1	–	3	–	1	2	–	2
Voted for someone else	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–

(ASKED OF ALL REGISTERED VOTERS EXCEPT THOSE WHO ANSWERED "DON'T KNOW" IN Q6)

Q7: Regardless of how or whether you actually voted on November 7th, if the election for president were being held today, which candidate would you vote for? Would it be George W. Bush, the Republican, Al Gore, the Democrat, Pat Buchanan, the Reform Party candidate, or Ralph Nader, the Green Party candidate? (ROTATED CANDIDATE NAMES)

	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Vote for Gore	46	88	38	3	70	50	27	43	49
Vote for Bush	45	8	46	93	18	35	69	47	43
Vote for Nader	4	-	10	-	9	3	-	6	1
Vote for Buchanan	1	1	2	-	2	1	1	1	1
Vote for someone else (Vol.)	2	-	3	-	-	6	-	2	2
Wouldn't vote (Vol.)	2	3	1	3	1	3	3	1	3
Don't know	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1

COMPOSITE TABLE OF Q6 AND Q7:

Column A = voted for
Column B = would now vote for

A	B	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Gore	Gore	35	70	28	3	56	39	17	31	38
Bush	Gore	2	2	4	-	3	1	3	3	2
Nader	Gore	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
Gore	Bush	1	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Bush	Bush	39	4	40	88	14	28	64	39	38
Other		23	21	27	9	26	31	15	27	19

(ASKED OF EVERYONE)

Q8: As you may know, Republican vice presidential candidate Dick Cheney suffered a mild heart attack a few weeks ago. How concerned are you about his ability to fulfill his duties?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Concerned	34	35	52	28	10	43	43	20	34	33
Not concerned	65	64	46	72	90	57	56	78	64	66
Don't know	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	2	2	1

(ROTATED GORE/BUSH IMPRESSION QUESTIONS)

Q9: What is your impression of George W. Bush?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Favorable	57	57	28	58	96	34	59	74	60	54
Unfavorable	38	38	67	40	2	63	35	23	34	42
Haven't heard enough	4	4	4	1	2	2	4	3	5	3
Don't know	1	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	1	1

Q10: What is your impression of Al Gore?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Favorable	53	53	86	46	19	71	57	39	49	58
Unfavorable	41	43	9	51	77	22	38	57	45	37
Haven't heard enough	3	2	3	2	-	3	4	2	4	2
Don't know	3	2	2	1	4	4	1	2	2	3

Q11: What is your impression of the United States Supreme Court?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Favorable	50	51	31	49	77	42	50	57	53	46
Unfavorable	31	34	50	28	10	41	34	21	28	34
Haven't heard enough	16	13	15	20	12	15	13	19	15	18
Don't know	3	2	4	3	1	2	3	3	4	2

Q12: How closely have you been following the news about the presidential race?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Closely	86	88	87	84	92	89	83	90	86	87
Not closely	14	12	13	16	8	11	17	10	14	13

Q13: Do you personally have a lot of confidence that your vote for president was counted, or some confidence or no confidence at all that your vote for president was counted?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Confidence (Net)	70	79	64	70	88	70	71	72	66	74
A lot of confidence	50	58	40	51	73	48	47	58	48	53
Some confidence	19	21	24	19	15	22	24	14	18	21
No confidence	10	10	16	7	3	9	8	12	12	8
Didn't vote (Vol.)	17	9	16	21	7	18	17	14	19	16
Don't know	3	2	4	2	2	3	4	2	3	2

Q14: Which statement comes closer to the way you feel: "It is better for the country to know quickly who the president will be after an election without challenges to the vote," or "It is better for the country to take every possible measure to reach a complete count of all ballots even if it means a delay in finding out who won"?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Know quickly	26	26	7	33	46	14	22	37	28	23
Count all ballots	69	69	91	60	41	83	74	55	66	71
Don't know	5	5	2	7	13	3	4	8	6	6

(ROTATED BUSH/GORE APPROVAL QUESTIONS)

Q15: Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Al Gore's campaign handled the election situation in Florida?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Approve	49	50	80	40	16	69	53	34	51	47
Disapprove	46	46	16	57	81	27	42	63	45	48
Don't know	5	4	4	3	3	4	5	3	4	5

Q16: Do you approve or disapprove of the way that George W. Bush's campaign handled the election situation in Florida?

	<u>ALL</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>DEM</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>REP</u>	<u>LIB</u>	<u>MOD</u>	<u>CON</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOM</u>
Approve	55	54	28	61	89	45	49	68	61	49
Disapprove	39	41	67	32	8	50	41	29	35	42
Don't know	6	5	5	7	3	5	10	3	4	9

Q17: Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Florida Supreme Court handled the election situation in Florida?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Approve	35	34	38	32	23	44	35	28	36	33
Disapprove	56	60	51	59	72	48	58	62	56	57
Don't know	9	6	11	9	5	8	7	10	8	10

Q18: Do you approve or disapprove of the way the U.S. Supreme Court handled the election situation in Florida?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Approve	47	48	23	47	80	37	42	59	48	47
Disapprove	44	45	69	42	17	54	45	36	44	43
Don't know	9	7	8	11	3	9	13	5	8	10

Q19: Thinking now of the media coverage of the presidential election, would you say that generally speaking the news media covered the election situation in Florida in an unbiased way, or did the coverage favor one presidential candidate over the other? (IF FAVORED A CANDIDATE) Which candidate would you say the media favored, George W. Bush or Al Gore?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Media unbiased	48	46	49	50	39	59	48	39	50	45
Favored Bush	19	18	34	13	7	20	25	15	15	24
Favored Gore	24	27	7	26	49	12	15	41	26	22
Don't know	9	9	10	11	5	9	12	5	9	9

Q20: Thinking now about the way George W. Bush and Al Gore each handled the events since election day... Who would you say has shown himself to be the best man for the job of president, George W. Bush or Al Gore? (ROTATED CANDIDATES)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Bush best	44	44	11	51	84	28	37	61	48	39
Gore best	42	44	78	34	6	59	42	30	36	47
Neither (Vol.)	4	3	2	4	4	3	4	2	2	5
Both (Vol.)	5	5	5	6	5	7	6	4	8	3
Don't know	5	4	4	5	1	3	11	3	6	6

Q21: How serious a problem do you think the controversy over the outcome of the presidential election was for the United States: Would you say it was a constitutional crisis, or a major problem but not a crisis, or a minor problem, or not a problem at all?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Crisis	14	15	20	11	12	15	14	15	13	16
Major problem	52	55	50	53	59	52	48	56	51	53
Minor problem	28	24	21	31	26	29	31	22	31	25
Not a problem	5	5	7	4	3	4	6	6	5	5
Don't know	1	1	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	1

Q22: As you may know, the courts have now cleared the way for the American presidential election to conclude. Looking back at how the problems were handled, would you say that you now have more confidence that the American constitutional system can peacefully resolve any future problems of this type, or do you now have less confidence in the system, or hasn't the way the election process was handled this time changed your level of confidence in the American constitutional system one way or the other?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
More confidence	25	26	14	23	45	23	18	31	27	24
Less confidence	47	47	66	46	23	51	54	40	44	49
No change	25	24	17	28	28	22	27	25	27	24
Don't know	3	3	3	3	4	4	1	4	2	3

Q23: Do you feel that you understand how the electoral college system for electing the president of the United States works? (IF YES) Would you say you have a very clear understanding of the electoral college system, or a somewhat clear understanding, or is your understanding not very clear?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Very clear	36	38	29	37	43	35	37	37	42	30
Somewhat clear	33	32	29	35	39	40	29	32	32	34
Not very clear	8	8	12	8	5	6	8	10	10	7
Don't understand	19	19	26	17	9	16	23	16	13	24
Don't know	4	3	4	3	4	3	3	5	3	5

Q24: After voters have cast their ballots at the polls on election day, representatives from each state formally elect the president based on the popular vote in their state. This is known as the electoral college and it was set in place by the framers of the Constitution. It is possible that a different candidate will win the electoral college vote than won the popular vote in the nation, as happened this year. Do you think the electoral college system is the best way to elect the president of the United States, or do you think that the Constitution should be amended to allow the election of the president only by popular vote?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Electoral college is best	30	31	14	29	54	21	23	42	31	30
Amend Constitution	61	60	80	65	38	74	67	50	61	61
Don't know	9	9	6	6	8	5	10	8	8	9

Q25: Do you think that the close presidential election and controversy over the final outcome will make it easier for George W. Bush to accomplish his goals and keep the campaign promises he made, or will it make it harder, or will the close election and controversy not make any difference in his ability to accomplish his goals?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Easier	6	6	9	1	3	1	6	10	6	7
Harder	58	60	59	62	52	69	62	50	58	58
No difference	31	29	22	33	43	25	30	36	31	30
Don't know	5	5	10	4	2	5	2	4	5	5

Q26: Do you think George W. Bush will be able to unite the country enough to lead effectively, or do you think his ability to lead the country will be damaged?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Lead effectively	52	53	26	57	82	40	51	63	56	49
Damaged (Net)	38	39	55	36	16	47	40	28	35	40
Badly damaged	11	12	22	9	3	15	8	11	13	8
Somewhat damaged	27	27	33	27	14	32	33	18	22	32
Don't know	10	8	19	7	2	13	9	9	9	11

Q27: Do you think the controversy surrounding the presidential election will diminish the U.S. president's influence among world leaders or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Diminished (Net)	31	32	45	25	19	36	31	29	28	34
Greatly diminished	8	9	16	7	3	11	7	7	8	8
Somewhat diminished	23	23	30	18	17	25	24	22	19	26
Not diminished	61	60	42	70	78	60	58	65	65	57
Don't know	8	8	13	5	3	4	11	6	7	9

Q28: In the next Congress, the U.S. Senate will be evenly split among Republicans and Democrats, and there will be a nearly even split in the U.S. House of Representatives. With this in mind, do you think the close presidential election is more likely to result in the political parties working together to get things done, or do you think it is more likely to mean four years of gridlock?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Work together	43	45	35	32	66	36	38	52	43	44
Gridlock	46	48	56	55	28	57	48	40	48	44
Don't know	11	7	9	13	6	7	14	8	9	12

Q29: Whichever party has a majority in the Senate takes on a leadership role. In the newly elected Senate, however, there is no majority party because there will be equal numbers of Democrat and Republican senators. With this in mind, which party—the Democrats or the Republicans—would you rather see lead in the Senate, or do you think leadership responsibilities should be split equally between the two parties?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Democrats	20	22	45	18	1	36	16	14	16	24
Republicans	19	21	3	18	51	5	10	34	20	17
Split responsibilities	58	54	50	60	46	56	71	49	63	53
Don't know	3	3	2	4	2	3	3	3	1	6

Q30: Do you think the close presidential election and the split in Congress between Democrats and Republicans shows that the American people are deeply divided along political lines, or do you think it shows that the country has moved to the political center?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Divided	49	50	59	48	46	55	47	47	52	46
Center	39	40	34	40	39	38	39	42	37	42
Don't know	12	10	7	12	15	7	14	11	11	12

Q31: Which of the following statements best expresses your feelings about why the presidential election was so close: "Neither presidential candidate was a strong enough leader to win over a clear majority of voters," or "Voters were equally divided over whether they preferred experience or likeability in their next president," or "The country is equally divided politically over the major campaign issues"?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Both candidates weak	29	29	25	39	17	36	38	19	32	26
Likeability vs.										
experience	17	17	18	14	16	23	15	15	16	18
Divided politically	43	45	44	40	57	36	40	52	43	44
Don't know	11	9	13	7	10	5	7	14	9	12

Q32: During the presidential campaign George W. Bush proposed a \$1.3 trillion dollar tax cut over ten years while his opponent, Al Gore, proposed a combination of smaller tax cuts, decreasing the debt, and strengthening social programs. Since a nearly equal number of people voted for both candidates in the most recent election, do you think Bush should push ahead with his tax cut plan once he is president, or do you think he should compromise with the Democrats on the issue of tax cuts?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Push ahead	29	27	9	35	48	20	22	38	27	30
Compromise	65	68	87	62	47	79	69	57	68	62
Don't know	6	5	4	3	5	1	9	5	5	8

Q33: During the presidential campaign George W. Bush proposed changes to Social Security which included diverting money out of the public fund into private investments. His opponent, Al Gore, proposed shoring up the Social Security fund and allowing additional private retirement investments. Since a nearly equal number of people voted for both candidates in the most recent election, do you think Bush should push ahead with his plans for Social Security once he is president, or do you think he should compromise with the Democrats on the issue of Social Security?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Push ahead	24	27	6	24	53	18	20	35	28	21
Compromise	69	69	91	70	43	80	72	59	66	71
Don't know	7	4	3	6	4	2	8	6	6	8

Q34: During the presidential campaign George W. Bush proposed changes to the system of public education including a national voucher plan and mandatory testing. His opponent, Al Gore, also proposed testing, but would have increased funding to public schools and opposed going to a voucher system. Since a nearly equal number of people voted for both candidates in the most recent election, do you think Bush should push ahead with his plans for public education once he is president, or do you think he should compromise with the Democrats on the issue of public education?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Push ahead	36	36	13	35	68	26	27	51	40	32
Compromise	57	58	81	58	28	69	63	44	53	61
Don't know	7	6	6	7	4	5	10	5	7	7

Q35: Now that George W. Bush has been declared the president-elect of the United States, will you support him as the next president, or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Support him	77	77	64	74	98	66	79	84	82	71
Don't support him	15	15	30	17	1	27	12	10	13	18
Don't know	8	8	6	9	1	7	9	6	5	11

Q36: Do you personally feel George W. Bush won the election legitimately or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Legitimately	52	52	23	52	91	39	42	68	55	49
Not legitimately	38	39	71	37	4	52	42	25	34	42
Don't know	10	9	6	11	5	9	16	7	11	9

Q37: In your opinion, do you think Al Gore was right in waiting to concede until he had exhausted all his legal options, or do you think he should have conceded earlier?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Right to wait	58	59	87	54	26	77	64	43	59	57
Should have conceded earlier	38	38	9	39	74	22	30	54	37	40
Don't know	4	3	4	7	-	1	6	3	4	3

Q38: Did you watch or listen to Al Gore's concession speech Wednesday night? (IF NOT) Have you heard, seen or read anything about his speech since then?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Watched/Heard about (Net)	70	72	68	75	78	71	74	71	70	71
Watched/listened	60	62	56	66	69	60	62	63	56	64
Heard about it	10	10	12	9	9	11	12	8	13	7
Didn't watch/Haven't heard about	30	28	32	25	22	29	26	29	30	29

Q39: Did you watch or listen to George W. Bush's speech Wednesday night? (IF NOT) Have you heard, seen or read anything about his speech since then?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Watched/Heard about (Net)	57	61	52	59	70	55	59	60	58	56
Watched/listened	47	50	43	46	61	43	47	52	49	45
Heard about it	10	11	9	13	9	12	12	8	9	12
Didn't watch/Haven't heard about	43	39	48	41	30	45	41	40	42	44

Q40: Al Gore conceded the election and called upon his supporters to unite behind President-elect George W. Bush. Do you feel his speech was conciliatory enough to begin to bring the country together after the divisive election, or was it not conciliatory enough?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Conciliatory enough	65	66	68	70	64	63	65	67	65	65
Not conciliatory enough	13	14	10	18	18	14	15	11	14	12
Don't know	22	20	22	12	18	23	20	22	21	23

Q41: George W. Bush spoke to the nation as president-elect for the first time on Wednesday night. He spoke about issues that he campaigned on and called for reconciliation and unity. Do you feel his speech was conciliatory enough to begin to bring the country together after the divisive election, or was it not conciliatory enough?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Conciliatory enough	50	54	36	58	70	46	44	58	54	46
Not conciliatory enough	19	21	28	18	9	28	24	9	17	20
Don't know	31	25	36	24	21	26	32	33	29	34

Q42: Thinking now of all the problems surrounding the vote counting process in Florida, would you say these are common problems that might arise in the course of any election, or do you think there was an effort by one party or the other to interfere with the outcome of the election?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Common problems	47	49	37	55	54	42	45	53	50	45
Interference	40	40	50	38	34	47	39	38	38	43
Both (Vol.)	5	4	6	4	2	7	5	2	5	4
Don't know	8	7	7	3	10	4	11	7	7	8

Q43: In your opinion, which method do you think yields the most fair and accurate result: punch card votes counted by a machine or punch card votes counted by hand?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Machine count	54	53	34	62	73	43	44	70	56	52
Hand count	27	27	40	24	13	37	32	16	30	25
Both (Vol.)	2	2	5	2	2	2	3	3	3	2
Neither (Vol.)	9	10	11	8	8	10	10	7	7	11
Don't know	8	8	10	4	4	8	11	4	4	10

Q44: Would you support or oppose a federal government requirement that all states use the same standardized vote counting system for national elections?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Support	93	93	95	95	88	93	96	92	93	94
Oppose	4	5	2	4	9	4	1	7	5	3
Don't know	3	2	3	1	3	3	3	1	2	3

Q45: A five-to-four majority of the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that unless uniform standards for counting were applied, the recounting of ballots in Florida was unconstitutional. Since the ruling coincided with the December 12th deadline for naming electors, the court ruled that recounts could not be resumed. Four justices disagreed with the majority opinion, saying the U.S. Supreme Court should not be involved in the dispute and there was sufficient time to complete the recount before the December 18th deadline when electors cast their vote.

Do you agree with the majority opinion that the ballots should not have been recounted, or do you agree with the minority opinion that recounts should have been completed?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Agree with majority	45	44	17	54	78	23	42	61	47	43
Agree with minority	53	53	82	44	19	76	55	37	51	54
Don't know	2	3	1	2	3	1	3	2	2	3

Q46: Do you believe the U.S. Supreme Court acted in a non-partisan way, that is, not favoring either party, when they ruled in a way that meant ballots would not be counted toward the outcome of the election in Florida, or do you believe that the U.S. Supreme Court ruling showed political favoritism?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Nonpartisan	51	51	25	53	82	43	44	63	55	47
Favoritism	42	43	68	40	15	52	44	32	39	44
Don't know	7	6	7	7	3	5	12	5	6	9

Q47: Thinking now about the court actions in Florida, do you believe the Florida Supreme Court acted in a nonpartisan way, that is, not favoring either party, when they ruled that ballots could be recounted toward the outcome of the election in Florida, or do you believe that the Florida Supreme Court ruling showed political favoritism?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Nonpartisan	49	49	52	52	38	63	49	40	50	48
Favoritism	40	41	35	38	54	32	33	51	43	36
Don't know	11	10	13	10	8	5	18	9	7	16

Q48: If the U.S. Supreme Court had allowed all the disputed ballots in Florida to be counted, who do you think would have ended up with the most votes, Al Gore or George W. Bush?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Gore	44	42	75	37	10	61	45	32	39	48
Bush	33	34	12	38	59	24	30	45	38	29
Don't know	23	24	13	25	31	15	25	23	23	23

Q48A: The media and other private groups have requested access to the Florida ballots under the Freedom of Information Act. If independent recounts of the ballots showed that Al Gore got the most votes in Florida, do you think George W. Bush's presidency would be damaged, or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Won't be damaged	34	34	16	38	51	28	36	37	37	30
Damaged (Net)	58	59	76	54	44	67	54	58	58	59
Badly damaged	27	24	43	25	13	32	25	26	26	28
Somewhat damaged	32	35	33	29	32	35	29	31	32	31
Don't know	8	7	8	8	5	5	10	5	5	11

Q49: Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's sons work for law firms which represented George W. Bush in both the Florida and U.S. Supreme Court cases. The wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas works with the Bush transition team. Her duties include accepting applications from people seeking employment in the Bush administration. Do you think that Justices Scalia and Thomas should have recused themselves, that is, not taken part in the court's deliberation because of an appearance of impropriety due to these relationships, or not?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Should have recused	48	50	68	45	27	57	54	39	42	55
Should not have recused	43	43	23	49	65	37	37	53	49	36
Don't know	9	7	9	6	8	6	9	8	9	9

Q50: As you may know, the television networks projected the outcome of the presidential election in each state after a majority of the precincts in that state had closed. Did you happen to hear or see a network prediction of the outcome of the presidential race before you had a chance to vote yourself? (IF YES) How did hearing the predicted outcome affect your decision to vote? Did you decide not to go to the precinct to vote because you had heard your candidate lost, or did you decide not to go to the precinct to vote because you had heard your candidate won, or did you decide to go to the precinct to vote for your candidate despite having heard the prediction?

	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Didn't hear projection	90	92	87	88	86	86	88	85	86
Heard projection	6	5	5	6	8	4	3	4	6
Didn't vote/Heard candidate won	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Didn't vote/Heard candidate lost	-	-	1	2	3	-	-	1	1
Voted anyway	5	5	3	4	5	4	3	3	6
Don't know	4	3	8	6	6	10	9	11	8

Q51: Which of these statements comes closer to your view: "Networks calling the election in each state before the polls close throughout the country is interfering with the voting process and the practice should be stopped," or "Networks calling the election in each state before the polls close throughout the country is breaking news and they should be allowed to continue the practice" (ROTATED STATEMENTS)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Should be stopped	75	77	77	66	86	72	71	81	72	77
Should continue	22	20	20	32	13	25	26	16	24	20
Don't know	3	3	3	2	1	3	3	3	4	3

Q52: Looking ahead to the 2004 presidential election... Do you think you are more likely to vote for president in 2004 after the controversy and closeness of this presidential election, or less likely to vote for president in 2004, or don't you think the controversy and closeness of this presidential election will affect whether you vote in 2004 one way or the other?

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
More likely	30	29	38	28	23	34	30	27	30	29
Less likely	6	4	10	4	4	6	5	7	5	7
No effect	61	64	50	68	72	56	65	62	60	62
Don't know	3	3	2	-	1	4	-	4	5	2

Q53: Where did you get most of your information about the results of the presidential election? Did you get it from the newspapers; or television news, seen on such networks as CBS, NBC or ABC; or did you get it from cable news shows, seen on such stations as CNN, MSNBC, FOX News, or C-SPAN; or did you get it from the Internet; or did you get your news from family or friends; or where did you get your news? (IF FROM INTERNET) Did you get your news from a newspaper Web site, or from a network television Web site, or cable station Web site, or from another Web site?

(ACCEPTED UP TO TEN REPLIES)

	ALL	RV	DEM	IND	REP	LIB	MOD	CON	MEN	WOM
Television news	59	58	60	54	59	57	55	62	55	63
Cable news	44	44	43	45	50	45	47	46	43	46
Newspapers	34	34	36	38	28	38	35	30	32	35
Family and friends	12	10	13	11	10	10	14	13	10	14
Cable TV Web site	6	6	5	11	6	5	5	8	8	4
Commercial radio (Vol.)	6	6	3	8	7	6	7	5	6	5
Newspaper Web site	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	5	7	3
Network TV Web site	3	3	2	4	4	5	4	2	4	2
Other Web site	3	4	2	6	4	8	-	2	4	2
Not sure which Web site	1	1	-	-	3	2	-	1	1	1
Public radio (Vol.)	1	2	2	1	1	5	-	-	1	2
Magazines (Vol.)	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1
Other	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	2	1	1
No particular place	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	-

Tables compiled by RAY ENSLOW